

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 5-6, 10, 12, 15-16, 19, 25, 29-30, and 32 are amended by this response. Claims 1-2, 4, 13-14, 18, and 24 are canceled by this response, without prejudice to filing continuation applications drawn thereto. Thus claims 5-6, 10-12, 15-17, 19-23, and 25-32 remain pending.

In the latest office action mailed December 21, 2004 issuing final rejection of certain of the pending claims, the Examiner allowed claims 20-23, and indicated that claims 5, 10-12, 15-17, 19, 25-28, and 31-32 would be allowable if amended to incorporate the elements of the respective parent independent claim and any intervening dependent claims.

In order to expedite issuance of claims deemed allowed and allowable by the Examiner, claims 1-2, 4, 13-14, 18, and 24 are canceled without prejudice to filing continuation applications drawn thereto. Other claims have been amended to place them in a form deemed allowable by the Examiner.

Specifically, claim 5 has been amended to be in independent form, incorporating the elements of parent independent claim 1. Claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 5. Claims 10 and 12 have also been amended to be in independent form, incorporating the elements of parent independent claim 1.

Claims 15 and 16 have been amended to be in independent form, incorporating the elements of parent independent claim 13. Claim 19 has been amended to depend from claim 17.

Claim 25 has been amended to be in independent form and incorporate the elements of parent independent claim 24. Claims 29, 30, and 32 have been amended to depend from claim 25.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Appl. No. 09/905,053
Amendment After Final Rejection Under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure Examining Group 2823

PATENT

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent J. Robin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kent J. Robin
Reg. No. 39,496

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